

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action dated April 9, 2004 has been reviewed. Claims 1-27 are pending in the specification; new claim 28 has been added. No claims have been allowed.

The specification has been amended on page 11 to correct a translation error. No new matter has been added. Claims 1, 2, 3, 11, 20, 23 and 26 have been amended to correct minor spelling and translation errors and to clarify the metes and bounds of the invention.

With respect to the Examiner's query regarding the information disclosure statement, page 4 is resubmitted herewith. It would appear that page 2 of the IDS submitted January 9, 2002 was considered twice, in place of page 4.

Claims 1-3, 23 and 26 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the words "such as" and "may be" render the claims indefinite. Applicants have amended the claims to eliminate this wording.

Claims 1, 3, 5-6, 21, 23-24 and 26 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tani et al. (JP 08-1000060). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A comparison of the dopants disclosed in the Tani reference and the dopants of the instant invention reveal important distinctions. The Tani dopants correspond to 7 different formulae, designated (1) through (7).

Formula (1) shows that when k is a number from 1 to 5, the aromatic group of the dopant carries at least one group of formula $-C(O)-O-CH^2-CH^2-O-CH^2-O-$ R, which is not present in the dopant defined by claims 1, 23 and 26.

Formulae (2) through (6) disclose that the $\text{-SO}_3\text{H}$ group is not carried by an aromatic group, but by the linear group or linear part of a group, as opposed to the $\text{-SO}_3\text{H}$ group of the dopant of claims 1, 23 and 26.

Finally, in formula (7), the dopant comprises two double aromatic rings, unlike the dopant defined in the instant invention.

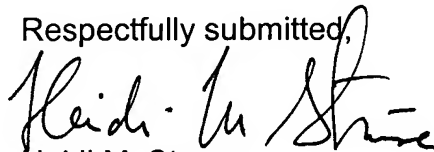
For these reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested.

Claims 1-6, 9-14, 17-24 and 26 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tani (cited above) in view of Kirmanen (US Patent No. 5, 585,040) or Ikkala et al. (US Patent No. 5, 783,111) or Wan-Cheung (US Patent No. 5,908,898). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Because the doped compositions of Tani do not disclose those of the instant invention, for the reasons detailed above, the references cannot be combined to disclose the subject matter claimed.

New claim 28 has been added. Support in the instant specification can be found in the description of formula (I) as well as that of formula (III), *viz.*, the specific embodiment in which R is the 2-ethylhexyl group. See, for example, pages 8 and 9 of the instant specification.

It is believed that claims 1-28 are now free of the prior art. Reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 1-28 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

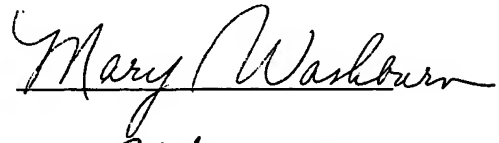

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 11, 2004.



Date: *October 11*, 2004

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